

VOL. V NO. 359

Paris rushes F-1 building for Iraqis

PARIS, Nov. 1 (AFP) — France may start delivery next month of 60 Mirage F-1 fighter planes ordered by Iraq in 1977 and 1979, according to the French newsmagazine *Le Point*.

Production has been speeded up at the Breguet-Dassault works, makers of the advanced supersonic jet plane, *Le Point* reported, "as to gain three months on first deliveries originally scheduled to begin in early February."

The company had issued specific instructions to the effect that "the first machines be on the banks of (Iraq's) river Tigris during the first days of December," the newsmagazine said.

No official confirmation could be obtained from government sources.

In Tel Aviv Friday, an Israeli press report said French-made Mirage jets had recently been transferred from Libya to Syria for integration into the Syrian air force.

The Mirage F-1 is an all-weather interceptor plane able to fly at very low altitudes. It has been in use by the French air force since 1972.

Equipped with a single Snecma-Atar turbo engine, its top speed is given as MACH 2.1 and its top altitude as 20,000 meters (over 60,000 feet).

Reagan aide resignation irks Israelis

Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1 — The Israeli lobby has been stunned by the resignation of Richard Allen, the top foreign policy adviser in Ronald Reagan's campaign organization, who has been instrumental in shaping the Republican candidate's pro-Zionist Middle East views.

Allen withdrew from the campaign Thursday following press reports he had used his position in the Nixon Administration to advance his personal business interests.

Allen, who has been described as the leading candidate for the post of national security adviser in a Reagan Administration, stepped down "for the remaining days of the campaign to remove this matter as a possible issue in the campaign," a Reagan spokesman said.

But this tactical move could backfire, the *New York Times* warned Friday, since Allen was regarded as "a strong supporter of Israel" and his departure could cost Reagan Jewish votes in next Tuesday's presidential election.

Morris Amitay, who recently resigned as head of the official Israeli lobbying organization, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, was quoted Friday as saying that support for Reagan among some Jewish groups "depends on Dick Allen."

The foreign affairs adviser's resignation "has shaken up a lot of people" in the Jewish community, Amitay said.

Palestinian sources here also said they regarded Allen's withdrawal as a blow to Reagan's chances of winning a sizable chunk of the American Jewish vote.

In a *Wall Street Journal* story Tuesday, Allen was accused of using his job with National Security Council during the Nixon Administration to advance his private business deals with Japanese and other foreign interests.

The Reagan campaign spokesman said these allegations were "untrue."

By Don McLeod

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1 (AP) — There probably never been more backhanded or halfhearted endorsements by U.S. newspapers than in this year's race between President Jimmy Carter, candidate of the Democratic Party, and Republican Ronald Reagan.

Editor and Publisher, the newspaper industry's trade journal, said 42 per cent of its members responding to a survey chose "none of the above" and endorsed none for president.

"If you were to imagine an ideal candidate for president you would not think of Ronald Reagan," admitted the *Rocky Mountain News*. But the Denver newspaper concluded Reagan "couldn't be a worse president than Carter if he tried."

It is too late to find a perfect candidate for president," rationalized the Owensboro (Kentucky) *Messenger-Journal*. "However, in the absence of someone who can be all things to all people, a choice needs to be made. We think the choice is Jimmy Carter."

"A formal endorsement would simply lend our imprimatur to a political system which has failed the American people by not offering a choice between qualified candidates," said the *Denver Post*.

Among those papers which did commit themselves, 443 daily newspapers across the country endorsed Reagan, maintaining the industry's traditional bent toward Republi-



EAST, NOW: A 170-ton light-house glides over the water in the port of Bremerhaven, West Germany. Having served at its old location for 70 years, the structure will guide ships into the harbor from a new spot when the delicate dramatic moving operation is completed.

Arab-American voters could 're-elect' Carter

Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1 — The Arab American vote in a handful of key "swing" states could decide next Tuesday's presidential election and return Jimmy Carter to the White House for another four years, a leading Arab American organization predicted Friday.

The large Arab-American communities in Ohio, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Texas — all states where the presidential race is extremely close — are showing surprisingly strong support for Carter over Republican challenger Ronald Reagan, according to the National Association of Arab Americans (NAAA).

"Almost all of our people seem to be going for Carter now," said NAAA executive director David Said. "This includes registered Republicans. For reading is that Carter could take 85 per cent of the Arab American vote."

The NAAA has been conducting informal surveys through its local chapters across the United States, to determine the voting preferences in the two-million-strong Arab American community.

The organization found that Carter was the overwhelming favorite of Arab Americans in the key states whose electoral votes are being hotly contested by the two major candidates.

Said said Carter's strength in these areas was surprising, because "most of our people are socially conservative, and tend to vote Republican by a margin of at least two-to-one."

Arab Americans are not generally single-issue oriented, in contrast to the American

Jewish community, Said noted. But this year, with many voters having difficulty deciding between the two candidates, the Middle East issue has become a decisive factor for many Arab Americans, he said.

"None of the major candidates has addressed the concerns of Arab Americans, such as the Lebanon issue or Palestinian rights," Said said.

But Carter is perceived by Arab Americans as being experienced on Middle East issue, capable of conducting effective negotiations, and prepared to challenge Israel if he is re-elected.

According to the latest population figures available, there were 117,000 Arab Americans in Ohio in 1974, 116,000 in Illinois, 115,000 in Pennsylvania, 95,000 in Michigan and 90,000 in Texas.

Said said these numbers have doubtless grown substantially since then.

"Take Ohio, for example. There were about 3.4 million voters in that state during the last presidential election, about half of them voting Republican and half Democratic," he said.

The NAAA official said his organization planned to contact the campaign organizations of both major candidates this weekend to explain to them the potentially crucial impact of the Arab American vote.

"If we assume there are about 100,000 Arab American voters in Ohio, and if 85 per cent of them go for Carter on Tuesday, that's about five per cent of the Democratic vote — a margin that could prove decisive," Said said.

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"Many other newspapers went with what they saw as the lesser of two evils. The *New York Times* said straight out that it

survive another term like the first."

The *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, which declined to make an endorsement, said it isn't all that bad.

"There is not a clear-cut choice," the *Times-Picayune* concluded. "Given its basic strength, however, we are confident that this nation will endure, regardless of who the victor is. But there is reason for concern."

Many other newspapers went with what they saw as the lesser of two evils.

The *New York Times* said straight out that it

had would have preferred better candidates, but decided, "There is a difference, it is important; and we choose Jimmy Carter."

The *Washington Post* first lambasted Carter campaign for "unrelieved awfulness" and then resolved that a "Democratic administration more nearly than its challenger embodies our ideas of what needs to be done."

"That is our conclusion," the *Post* said grimly. "We may not be enthusiastic about it. But we are emphatic."

The *Seattle-Howard* newspapers

backed Carter, two Anderson.

There was a fair share of hyperbole as papers sought to justify a stand.

The *Philadelphia Inquirer* said the prospect of a Reagan presidency "is so fraught with danger, so pregnant with potential bitterness, division and violence as to be unacceptable."

But the *Sacramento (California) Union* said it is Carter who "would place the nation in great peril." And half a continent away, the *Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch* opined, "There is ample reason to fear our republic could not

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Talks center on training

King Khaled meets Bonnet

JEDDAH, Nov. 1 (SPA) — King Khaled received his office in the royal court Sami yesterday. French Interior Minister Christian Bonnet, who is visiting the Kingdom. The audience was attended by Crown Prince Fahd, Prince Abdullah, second deputy premier and commander of the national guard; and Prince Naif, the interior minister.

Bonnet, accompanied by a high-level delegation from his ministry, arrived here Friday to continue talks opened during Saudi

Naif's visit to France last year. The talks concentrated on technical equipment and training to be provided by France.

The Saudi-French talks began here Saturday morning under Prince Naif and the French interior minister. The French side in the talks included French Police Commissioner Maurice Lammiere, French ambassador to the Kingdom, Michel Drumetz, and

members of the delegation accompanying Bonnet.

The Saudi Arabian delegation at the meeting comprised Prince Ahmad, deputy interior minister; Dr. Ibrahim Al-Awaj, deputy interior minister; Hashem Maanouq, deputy interior minister for passports and civil status; Gen. Abdullah Al-Sheikh, public security director, and Gen. Muhammad ibn Hallal, director of the frontier corps and coast guards.

Prince Naif said after the meeting that their talks concentrated on cooperation between the two interior ministers, especially French assistance in training and equipping the Kingdom's ministry of interior. "We received considerable response from the French interior minister and members of his delegation in approving the Kingdom's request," the prince said.

The Saudi Arabian Interior Ministry will establish a French language teaching institute for security men with the assistance of the French ministry. France will also provide cooperation in building a technical cooperation bureau and drawing a program of visits by officials to inspect the needs of the interior ministry, the prince said.

Asked about the possibility of Saudi-French cooperation for the Coastal Guards, he said, "the Coastal Guards, being one of the interior ministry's sections, will benefit from all the French technology in this aspect. We will evaluate our requirements in cooperation with the French government," Prince Naif said.

In an airport statement, Prince Naif, who went to meet his French colleague Friday said he hoped that positive results would be reached during Bonnet's four-day visit and that the scope of mutual cooperation be expanded.

He said he wanted more cooperation with France by virtue of the traditional friendship, which binds the two countries in more than one field and in compliance with the policy traced by the late King Abdul Aziz, the founder of Saudi Arabia, the late President Charles de Gaulle, King Khaled, Crown Prince Fahd and President Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

Although I don't say so out of a feeling of fear for my country and its future, still I wonder why such an enthusiasm is not created among the young generation in an organized and well-studied manner. The student must be made to realize the state's liberal attitude toward him; only then he should be expected to play the role of a real representative of his family and society. This, in fact, must be one of the fruitful objectives of a school.

In my view, our school curriculum ought to include such a subject, in order to broaden the students' horizon and give them a perfect and sound upbringing. There would then be no running away from the school, no indifference and no damage as well to the school property.

Comment

By Nasser Al-Qarawi
Al Riyadh

If there is any shortcoming in the school curricula, it is the absence of a syllabus on national education or patriotism, which ought to be enthused in the children right from the school days to the university level. At present, there is no such curriculum that should implant patriotism in the children and goad them to work for it, so they are able to develop a sense of belonging to the country.

If we were to consider a citizen's relation with the society and his role in it as a patriot, we find that the citizens, mainly the younger generation, do not have the real depth of understanding of the matter. The abundant peace, tranquility and richness of the country perhaps constitute the main reason for there being no such

curriculum that should highlight the role of patriotism and instill a nationalistic spirit in our youth.

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Prayer times

Sunday	Mecca	Medina	Nejd
Fajr	5.09	5.13	4.39
Ishraq	6.18	6.30	6.01
Dhuhr	12.11	12.12	11.38
Asr	3.26	3.24	3.51
Maghrib	5.47	5.44	5.12
Isra	7.17	7.14	6.42



ARRIVAL: Prince Naif, Minister of Interior, meets his French counterpart, Christian Bonnet, at the airport.

Exhibitors clamor for space

LONDON, Nov. 1 (LPS): More than 100 British companies have asked for space at either the Saudi Education '81 or Saudi Business '81 exhibitions to be held in Riyadh next April.

Both shows are to be held in the Kingdom for the first time and follow the success of similar exhibition organized in Bahrain earlier this year.

The two events are being organized by Overseas Exhibition Services Ltd., of London and will receive support from the British government. Saudi Education '81 will con-

centrate on education, training and sport equipment, and British participation is being organized by the London-based British Educational Equipment Association in association with Overseas Exhibition Services Ltd.

British participation in Saudi Business '81, a business equipment show, is being organized by the Business Equipment Trade Association of London, again in association with the organizers.

Both exhibitions will be held at the air conditioned al-Dhifa Exhibition Center from 26 to 30 April.

Interior decor contracts let

LONDON, Nov. 1 (LPS): Contracts to supply and fit interior decor and furnishing for Holiday Inn hotels in Kuwait and at Yanbu, Saudi Arabia, have been awarded to a British firm.

Teams of skilled fitters will fly out next February to do the work, and all the materials, from steel to soft furnishings, will also come from Britain.

"The contracts are a tribute to the skill of

our craftsmen and add to our excellent reputation established in overseas work," says the managing director of Plumb Contracts of Coventry in the English midlands. Together, they are valued at £620,000.

In 1978, the firm was main contractor for the interior of a large department store in Doha and, in the same year, had a contract for the Christian Dior store in Riyadh. It has also carried out work in Oman, Abu Dhabi and Bahrain.

"The contracts are a tribute to the skill of

Kingdom paid for broadcasting to different Islamic countries

Riyadh, Nov. 1 (SPA) — The Kingdom paid the costs of live television and radio broadcasting of the pilgrimage for several Islamic countries who had difficulty in sparing the money. The kind gesture was made under King Khaled's instructions for broadcasting the honorable picture of pilgrims practicing the rites to all round the world.

Information Minister Dr. Muhammad Abd Al-Yamani expressed his admiration for the efforts of the Ministry of Information in this year's pilgrimage. The task of the ministry during the pilgrimage is

present the best audio-visual picture of the pilgrimage in cooperation with other Islamic media departments, he said.

The minister added that it was for the first time that prayers were broadcasted from Nimsa Mosque in Mina this year. The broadcasting was effected by cameras carried on helicopters. Dr. Yamani expressed his pleasure for the great response by pilgrims for Interior Minister Prince Naif's call that pilgrims be devoted to performing the pilgrimage completely and set aside any worldly problems and differences.

In a statement, Prince Naif said, "I thank Your Majesty for your kind greetings on the occasion of the Republic of Austria's national day. I, in my turn, avail myself of this opportunity to express to Your Majesty our heartfelt feelings and wish the Saudi people further prosperity."

Meanwhile, Tunisian President Al-Habib Bourguiba Friday received a message from King Khaled in reply to the one he had sent to the King.

King Khaled also congratulated Algerian President Chedli Ben Jidid Saturday on the occasion of the Algerian national day. The King wished the Algerian leader happiness and prosperity and success to the people.

Sheikh Abdul Rahman Al-Omran, the Saudi ambassador to Tunisia who delivered the message, said that the message dealt with

bilateral relations and come within the context of consultations for the benefit of both countries, the Arabs and Muslims.

He added that he conveyed to President Bourguiba the greetings of King Khaled and best wishes of good health.

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Computer to assess Islamic activity

MECCA, Nov. 1 (SPA) — The Mecca-based Muslim World League installed a computer at the league's headquarters and will be manned by league specialists who had been sent abroad to train with hardware and software computer engineering, Harakan said.

The computer will serve the Dawa (invitation to Islam) activities and will regularly draw a survey, and assess the league's activities.

Moreover, Harakan said the league's audio-visual department will start producing programs that will be sold on tapes to the public at cost price. These programs or tapes will include a select recording of the Holy Koran with translations of its meanings in English, and full recordings of lectures and sermons delivered during the league's conferences by Muslim intellectuals.

He added that the purpose of the league's audio-visual department is to project the voice of Islam as far as possible, to as many Muslims in the world as possible. In addition the league's publications will deal in theistic style with the new phenomena within the Islamic world.

Arab group to act as Gulf observer

DAMMAM, Nov. 1 (SPA) — The Arab Chamber, Industry and Agriculture Chambers Federation of Gulf states will participate as an observer in the upcoming conference of Gulf ministers of commerce to be held in Kuwait later this month. The federation will present a memorandum to the conference about the maritime transport problems, according to Kazem Abdul Hamid Al-Muhaidi, the secretary general.

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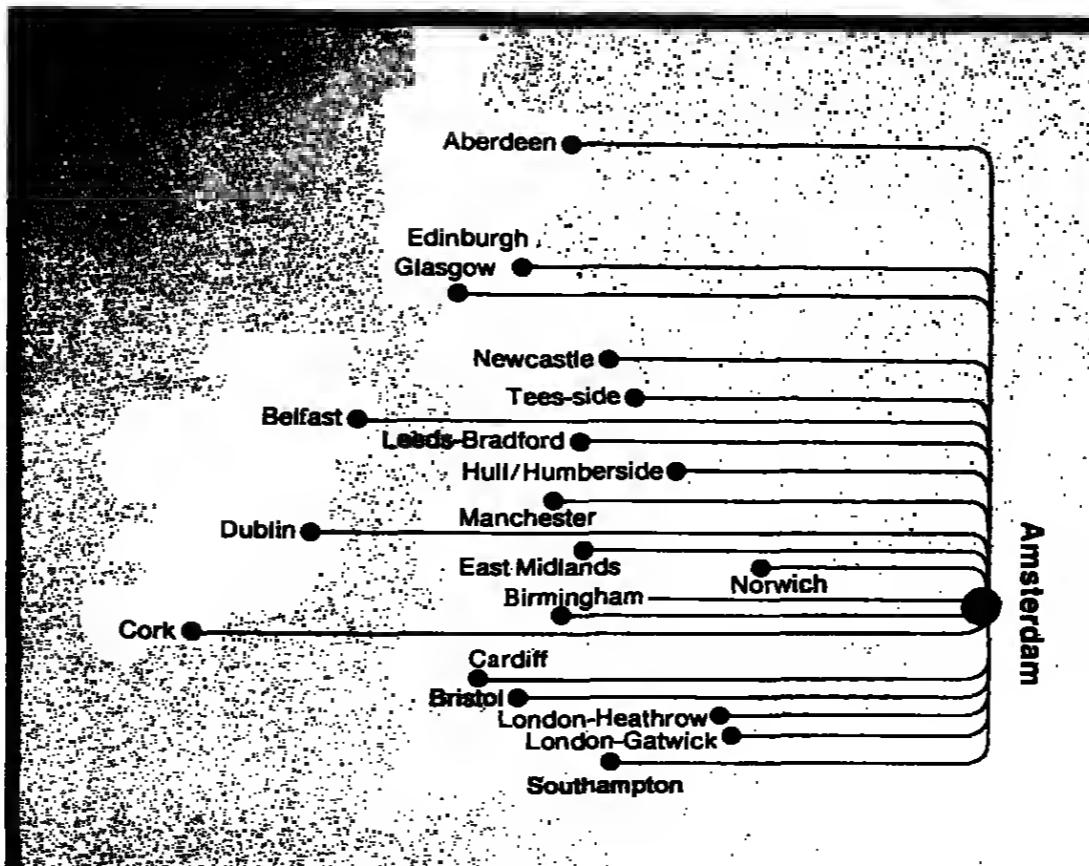
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Departures to Amsterdam.

from	flight	dep.	arr.
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Dhahran	KL 515 DC-8	Tuesday	11.25 14.10
Dhahran	KL 510 DC-10	Thursday	01.20 06.10
Jeddah	KL 548 DG-8	Wednesday	09.50 16.00
Jeddah	KL 520 DC-10	Friday	02.30 07.00

Passengers from Riyadh have a choice of flights connecting with KLM departures from Dhahran and Jeddah.

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For industrial development**Decisions define projects**

JEDDAH, Nov. 1 (SPA) — Minister of Industry and Electricity Dr. Ghazi Al-Saifi issued a decision defining those considered development projects under the foreign capital investment rules, it was reported Saturday.

The minister told *Al-Jazira* newspaper that projects under industrial development, agricultural production development, health development, services and contracting are considered as development projects.

The decree has eight articles defining the projects coming under the scope of development. Industrial production development projects are industries that change raw materials to finished products, or semi-finished products; or changing semi-finished products to finished products; or preparing finished products — canning and packing.

Agricultural production development projects include agricultural, fish and animal resources. Fruits, vegetable, grain, experimental farms, green houses, byproduct and green fodders come under the agricultural projects.

Health development projects mean building, administering and operating hospitals, clinics, etc.

Under the services topic comes, for instance, banking, hotel, tourist, training, maintenance and operation, cleaning, environmental protection, transportation — loading and unloading — advertising, public relations, publishing, computer, advanced technology workshops, large storerooms and commercial cold-stores, central shopping centers, central markets and distinguished restaurant services.

Contracting means promising to finish a particular job for others for a certain interest. For example: civil construction contracting includes constructing buildings, assembling prefabricated buildings, building airports, roads, bridges, dams, ports and sewage and water networks.

Electricity contracting projects comprise building power generating plants, electricity or electronics distribution networks. Mechanical contracting projects include industries and saline water desalination plants.

An article of the decree states that upon the recommendation of the foreign capital investment committee, projects not included in the above mentioned sections would be accepted as development projects. On the proposal of the investment committee, any of the above projects could be adjusted, the last article said.

Saudi-Swiss Bank to open in Geneva

GENEVA, Nov. 1 (Agencies) — The Federation of Swiss Banks and a group of Saudi businessmen proclaimed Thursday the creation of The Saudi-Swiss Bank of Trade and Investment.

The new bank will be based in Geneva and the Federation of Swiss Banks will own 60 per cent of its 50 million Swiss franc capital. The bank will open within two weeks.

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Dr. Ghazi Al-Saifi

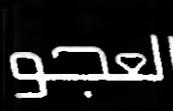
New standards to be approved

RIYADH, Nov. 1 (SPA) — The Saudi Arabian Standards Organization Board will meet here Sunday under Commerce Minister Dr. Soliman A. Solaim, chairman of SASO board, officials reported Saturday.

Dr. Khaled Al-Khalaf, SASO director general, said that the board is expected to approve 12 new Saudi Arabian standard specifications. Seven of them will deal with food and agricultural products, while the rest cover engineering, chemical industries and measurements.

Some of the important issues will be safety measures for electricity, wiring in residential buildings and methods of examining them. Others include specifications for steel ropes for general purposes, food salt, pineapple juice and tomato paste and ways of examining them.

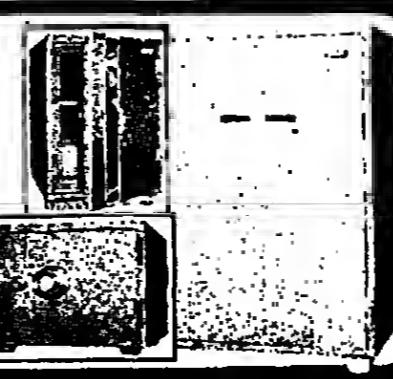
Dr. Khalaf said that these specifications will be implemented six months after the date of their approval and announcement. The board also will discuss the first part of the 1981-82 budget for the organization and other issues, he added.

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YAHU: KING ABDUL AZIZ ST. - TEL. 2464


BRIEFS**Shehail leaves for talks**

DAMMAM, Nov. 1 (SPA) — Sheikh Faisal Al-Shuhail, director general of the Saudi Railroad Organization, left for Islamabad Saturday on the first leg of a tour which will also take him to India and Australia. During his 24-day tour, Shuhail will discuss cooperation in rail road service with Saudi Arabia and witness the progress and technological advance in this field with a view of developing the Kingdom's railroad system.

SR 8,000 help for disabled

JEDDAH, Nov. 1 — The state will pay SR 8,000 per year to every severely disabled person, *Al-Jazira* reported Saturday. The grant will apply to persons crippled by brain paralysis, the amputation of two limbs, a double handicap (like the deaf-blind), or mental retardation and another handicap in the same persons, Abdullah Ibrahim Al-Jelham, assistant deputy minister of labor for rehabilitation said. The money is intended to help the family spend on the disabled member, he added.

Najran flights increased

NAJRAN, Nov. 1 — Saudi will operate 22 flights to Najran from Riyadh, Jeddah and other cities starting from November 1st, officials said. In addition, international flights from Najran to Beirut, Cairo and Bangkok, are scheduled. Ahmad Majalli, director of Saudi's branch in Najran said Saturday.

Work permits facilitated

JEDDAH, Nov. 1 — An average of 500 to 800 work permits are asked every day by the main labor office of the Western Region according to Muhammad Saleh, the office's manpower director.

Dammam to distribute grants

major Al-Suhaib said.

He added that people who have direct grants will be included in other zones being planned now. The plannings will be submitted for approval before distribution of the land. However, he said, they will be the next step after the academic grants. The municipality has taken into consideration basic services to facilitate the building procedures for the owners of the land immediately upon receiving their land.

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VISURGIS	08.80	08.11.80
ELVIRA	01.80	22.11.80
2. IBERO LINES= Container service : New York - Baltimore - Savannah - Lisbon - Foz - Valencia - Livorno - Naples/JEDDAH		
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LUCIA DEL MAR	09.80	15.11.80
CASILDA DEL MAR	15.80	01.12.80
NURA DEL MAR	09.80	12.12.80

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Mitsui Bank of Japan announces the opening November 1 of its Bahrain Office

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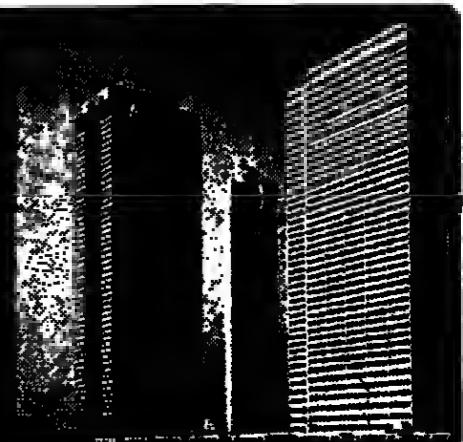
Our Bahrain office will be providing another key link in Mitsui Bank's expanding international network and 70-year history in overseas banking. At home, Mitsui Bank's 166 domestic offices are also ready to provide you with comprehensive banking services through professional teams of

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Subsidiaries: The Mitsui Bank of California (Los Angeles, San Francisco), Mitsui Finance Asia Ltd. (Hong Kong), Mitsui Finance Europe Ltd. (London)

In Tokyo tennis**Borg, Lendl bumped**

TOKYO, Nov. 1 (AP) — Hard hitting American Bill Scanlon outslugged world's No. 1 player and top seed Bjorn Borg of Sweden Friday night in a stunning quarterfinal upset at the \$300,000 World Super Tennis tournament.

Scanlon wiped out the 24-year-old Swede's hope of winning his third straight title with a 7-5, 3-6, 7-5 victory.

Scanlon will meet second seed Jimmy Connors, also of the United States, in Saturday's semifinal round on a hard court set over an Olympic swimming pool.

Connors, 28, three-time U.S. Open champion, easily defeated fellow American Pat Dupre 6-3, 6-0.

Sixth-seeded John Sadri, another former All-American also scored a major upset by beating third seed Ivan Lendl, a promising young professional from Czechoslovakia, 7-6, 6-7, 7-6.

It was Scanlon's first win over the five-time Wimbledon champion Borg since he first lost to the Swede in the 1979 Tokyo tournament after winning the first set.

The 23-year-old Texan combined patience and power against a sub-par performance by the 24-year-old Borg.

"This is the biggest win I've ever had. I myself am overwhelmed (by the victory)," a jubilant Scanlon told newsmen after his stunning triumph before 6,700 spectators at the Yoyogi Indoor National Stadium.

A haggard-looking Borg, trying to keep his cool, was subdued.

"I just made too many mistakes. I've been in poor condition for the last two weeks, but I'm not worried about it," the Swede said.



Jimmy Connors

den, 7-5, 3-6, 7-5.
Jimmy Connors, U.S. def. Pat Dupre, U.S.
6-3, 6-0.

John Sadri, U.S. def. Ivan Lendl, Czechoslovakia, 7-6, 6-7, 7-6.
Tom Gullikson, U.S. def. Victor Amaya, U.S.
7-6, 4-6, 7-6, 6-3.

Summaries:
Single Quarters:
Bill Scanlon, U.S. def. Bjorn Borg, Swe-

den, 7-5, 3-6, 7-5.

Double-quarters:
Brian Teacher and Bruce Mansen, U.S.
def. Peter Fleming and Peter Reinaert, U.S.
7-6, 6-3.

Peter McNamara and Paul McNamara, Australia, def. Bill Scanlon and Ivan Lendl, Czechoslovakia, 3-6, 7-6, 6-3.

Jaeger overcomes nerves, knocks off Wade

ing confidently through the final set 6-2 for a superb 105-minute victory.

It was a gap the British player, on whose performance her country's chances of regaining the cup almost certainly depended, never made up, and the second set went to the young American in 32 minutes.

From then on, the following-bairied Jaeger — the youngest player ever to appear in the Wightman Cup — never looked back, strok-

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The tournament runs through Saturday when the three final matches will be played.

Canadian moves to badminton final

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New federation signs top '80 drivers

Racing teams split with FISA

PARIS, Nov. 1 (Agencies) — Rebel Grand Prix racing teams announced Friday a \$10 million "World Professional Drivers Championship" in what appeared to be the definitive break with the international sanctioning body.

The 15-race series in 12 countries will

include events at Long Beach, Calif. New York — understood to be at the Meadowlands complex — Las Vegas, and Watkins Glen, N.Y.

Other races will be held in South America, South Africa and Europe, under the sanction of a new "World Federation of

Motor Sport" whose members are yet to be named.

Several of the races are at the same venue and on the same dates as events sanctioned by the traditional world body, the Paris-based International Auto Sport Federation (FISA). The first clash will be at the circuit near Johannesburg Feb. 7.

Major manufacturers such as Renault, Ferrari and Alfa-Romeo are backing the FISA series because their other motor sport activities need FISA sanctions.

The new series is run by the Formula One constructors organization (FOCA), which has guaranteed 12 teams will run 23 cars at each event, led by the three top drivers of 1980 world championship Alan Jones of Australia, Nelson Piquet of Brazil and Carlos Reutemann of Argentina.

The world champion in the new series will win \$1 million.

In a document released Friday, Jean-Marie Balestre, the controversial president of FISA, is repeatedly blasted. Frank Williams, 1980 world champion constructors, is quoted as saying "The split was inevitable. Under Balestre, FISA is no longer capable of administering professional motor sport."

Colin Chapman, whose Loms cars have won six world titles, said: "After 25 years in Grand Prix racing I would rather stop than continue under Balestre."

Explaining what it described as "the final split with FISA," the document said FISA and its parent body, the International Automobile Federation (FIA) "do not appear to be prepared to eliminate the abuses and allow professional motor sport to be properly run."

FOCA president Bernie Ecclestone, owner of the Brabham team, claimed the FISA championship "is completely illegal in almost all countries ... because of the imposition of financial arrangements on organizers and teams."



VICTORY: Three of the world's top Grand Prix drivers celebrate after the Brands Hatch, England race in July. Alan Jones, left, won the race, followed by Nelson Piquet, right, in second and Jones' teammate Carlos Reutemann, center, in third.

Lloyd ends speculation about captaincy



Clive Lloyd, skipper of the touring West Indies Cricket Team, in action during a match against England.

Iftikah goes top, downs Jabalain

By Laurie Thomas

JEDDAH, Nov. 1 — Whilst the big four teams in the Saudi Soccer League were fighting each other to achieve two draws last week-end, outsider Iftikah eased into the early league lead by downing Jabalain 2-0, Friday.

Iftikah, who overcame Shabab by a single goal last week, now have four points from their first two matches.

Current champions, Nasr, fought out 1-1 draw with Ahli, an own goal by an Ahli defender being wiped out by a late Amin Dabu goal for Ahli.

Much fancied Hilal were held to a goalless draw by Jeddah-based Etihad on Thursday, with five players being booked. Rivelino received the yellow card, and one point was near to an open fight with Etihad's Bukan.

In other soccer action, Qadisah downed Shabab 3-2, and Nahada overcame Al-Riyad 2-1.

ISLAMABAD, Nov. 1 (AFP) — Clive Lloyd, skipper of the touring West Indies Cricket Team, Friday brushed aside speculations that he was retiring from active cricket.

"I am quite fit. I never announced my retirement from test cricket," Lloyd said in an airport interview on arrival here at the head of a 16-member Caribbean contingent.

Skipper Lloyd suffered a muscular injury during the West Indies English tour. Slightly limping, he stressed that he never thought of giving up cricket. "Some people probably thought to retire me," he said adding that he was quite fit to do the job.

"That's why I am here for the four test series" against Pakistan.

He said the series against Pakistan would be "very tough and hard" since Pakistan was a very strong team and "we have seen them doing extremely well against Australia".

The West Indies captain said, "We have adequate bowlers and batsmen who could meet any team" and that his boys would play good cricket and "we will win the series."

He did not comment on the impact of the omission of Andy Roberts, Colin King, Derick Murray and Lawrence Row on the

Mifsud sure of final

LAUNCESTON, Australia Nov. 1 (AP) — World Amateur Billiards Champion Paul Mifsud of Malta continued on his winning way towards the billiards-snooker crown here Friday.

Mifsud, undefeated in the Tattersalls 1980 World Amateur Snooker Championships, humbled local star and three-time Australian Champion Ron Atkins with superlative position play and accurate potting.

Mifsud dropped only one frame in his defeat of Atkins and is a certainty to contest the finals next week.

Tasmanian champion James Giannaros also remained undefeated when he accounted for Canadian Robert Paquette 4-1.

Giannaros considered fortunate to be still in, should join the 1979 Australian champion John Campbell, of Sydney, in the finals next after easy draws in the next two days play.

team but said, "If everything should come together we are looking forward to a very satisfying tour."

Lloyd supported the idea of appointing international "neutral observers" saying that it was a good move and the World Cricket Conference should adopt it since posting neutral observers would be "beneficial for the teams and the game."

The West Indies cricket team begin their tour by playing a three day match against President of Pakistan eleven on Wednesday. During their 68-day they will play four test matches at Karachi, Lahore, Multan and Faisalabad.

New Zealand meets Wales

CARDIFF, Wales, Nov. 1 (AFP) Wales captain Steve Fenwick calls Saturday's centenary test against New Zealand at the National stadium here "possibly the biggest moment in my rugby career."

The same applies to most of the other 29 players who will come out into the unique atmosphere of the former Cardiff Arms Park ground shortly before 2:30 p.m. (GMT).

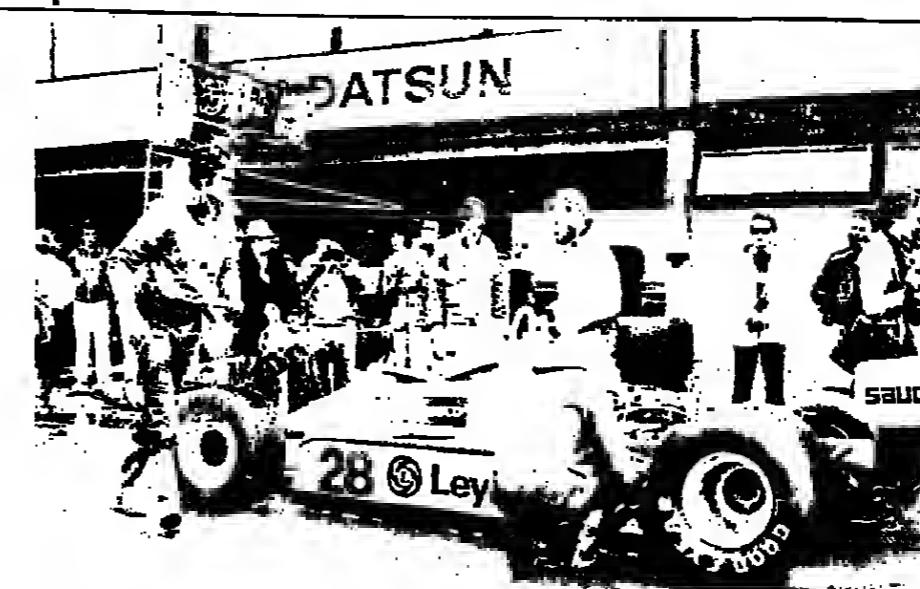
Fenwick, Wales' most capped center, will be making his 28th appearance but it is his first full international as captain.

"I'd like to win it more than my others" he said. "It is a one-off match and there is a lot at stake. There will be no second chance."

His opposite number, Graham Mourie, is leading an All Blacks test side for the 12th time and nothing would please him more than for New Zealand to extend a winning sequence over the Welsh that goes back six games to 1953.

"There is a special relationship between the two countries and there's no team we would prefer to beat," said the 27-year-old flanker, who has now firmly established himself as one of the great captains of all time.

Meanwhile in France, the Australian Rugby Union club Queensland, fresh from their victory over a Basque regional side Wednesday, triumphed 25-7 against leading French club Begles Friday in the second match of their French tour.



IN THE PITTS: Sandia-Williams driver Carlos Reutemann here is seen on his way to a top finish in a Grand Prix at Zandvoort this past summer. Now out of the pits is a new racing federation that alters the way the Grand Prix field will operate next year.

1981 Calendar:

Feb. 7 South African Grand Prix
March 15 USA Grand Prix (Long Beach)
March 29 Brazilian Grand Prix (Rio de Janeiro)
May 2 USA Grand Prix (Rio de Janeiro)
May 17 Italian Grand Prix (Imola)
June 7 Spanish Grand Prix (Jarama)

June 21 Belgian Grand Prix (Spa-Francorchamps)
July 5 or 12 Swedish Grand Prix (Anderstorp)
July 18 British Grand Prix (Silverstone)
August 2 West German Grand Prix (Hockenheim)
August 16 Austrian Grand Prix (Oesterreich)
Sept. 13 Canadian Grand Prix (Montreal)
Sept. 27 USA Grand Prix (Watkins Glen)
Oct. 11 Mexican Grand Prix (Mexico City)
Oct. 18 USA Grand Prix (Las Vegas)

Bayern retains top spot, Nance shares lead in France

BONN, Nov. 1 (AFP) — Bayern Munich held onto their top-of-the-league standing in West German First Division football with a 4-2 home win over FC Nuremberg Friday.

Bayern maintained their two point lead over SV Hamburg who beat Arminia Bielefeld 2-0.

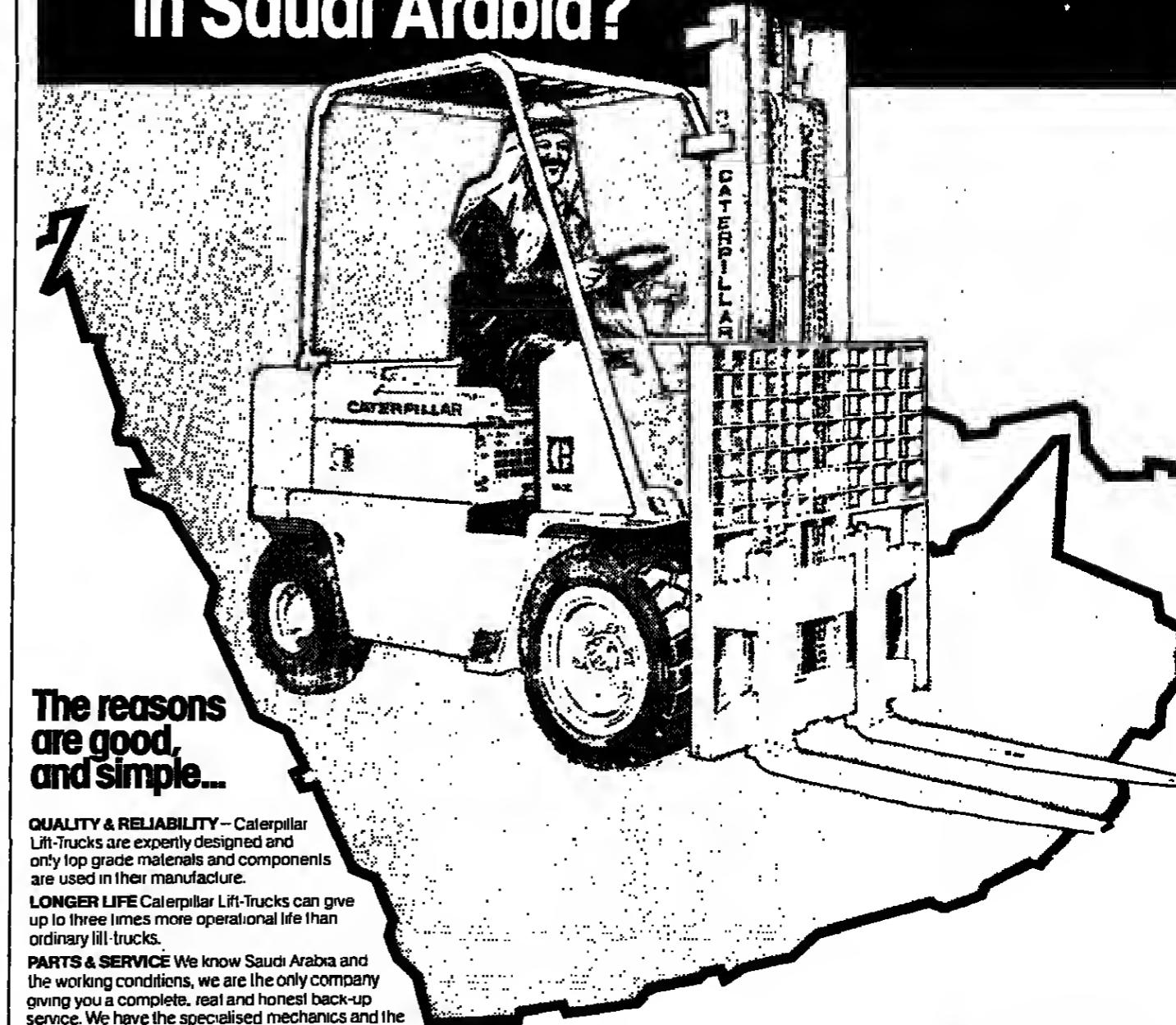
Meanwhile Nance joined Saint Etienne at the top of the French First Division after beating second-from-bottom Laval 4-1 at home Friday.

Saint Etienne were held to a 1-1 draw at Lens and both clubs were on 424 points from

Soccer Results

French
Sachsen 3 Metz 0
Nimes 1 Montpellier 3
Tours 2 Valenciennes 3
Bordeaux 2 Auxerre 0
Nice 2 Ajaccio 2
Nancy 2 Strasbourg 0
Lyon 2 Lille 2
Bastia 2 Paris 3 G. P.
Nantes 4 Laval 1
Lyon 4 Saint Etienne 1
W. Germany
Borussia Monchengladbach 2 FC Cologne 0
Bayern Munich 4 FC Nuremberg 2
Oayer Leverkusen 1 FC Kaiserslautern 0
Borussia Dusseldorf 5 HSV Dusseldorf 1
Forwards Dusseldorf 7 VFL Bochum 1
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Bolivia expects counter-coup

By P.A. Tarr

LA PAZ —

The coffee shops and street markets of La Paz are buzzing with rumors about the probable downfall of Gen. García Meza and his self-proclaimed "Government of National Reconstruction." The military junta which took power only 13 weeks ago in Bolivia's 189th coup is expected to be ousted by dissident factions within the armed forces, and, as one leading politician said recently, "the counter-coup could come at any moment."

There is little doubt that Meza is in all kinds of trouble. One observer said: "It's not a question of whether he can get himself out of it but rather when his opponents within the military will decide to kick him out."

Increasingly both senior and junior officers see Meza's regime as a very costly failure; one which is liable totally to discredit the military as a political force for years to come. Their great fear is that his downfall will be theirs too. The economy is deteriorating rapidly. With a \$160 million debt repayment due, and only a \$200 million Argentine loan to help make up for the massive losses of foreign aid and investment, it seems likely that the junta may go bankrupt.

Few see the plotters waiting for that to happen. Despite reshuffles, arrests and purges inside the military since the first days of the coup, there is little doubt that Meza has been unable to prevent the opposition crystallizing.

The greatest threat comes from the Tarapaca Regiment and its commander, Gen. Donia Medina. The Tarapaca, Bolivia's second most powerful fighting unit, has been conspicuously absent during most of the recent military actions. Recently there was a strong rumor that 50 of its officers had been arrested on suspicion of plotting against the government. Gen. Medina, a leading rightist, makes no secret of his contempt for Meza.

Other likely candidates include Gen. Hugo Echeverria and Col. Natusch Bush. Echeverria, despite his ambitions, has curiously chosen to distance himself from the regime, despite having been the first to mobilize on the day of the coup. A week later he successfully survived an attempt to oust him as commander of the Second Army Corps.

Natusch, like Echeverria, is another highly influential figure now out of favor with the junta. Despite his disastrous involvement in last November's abortive coup, he could well be a leading figure in the next.

If the counter-coup is to succeed in restoring the military's credibility, it will clearly have to distinguish itself from the present regime. Equally, it will have to perform something of an economic miracle to reverse the oean disastrous situation it will inherit. All this gives credence to the notion that some kind of power-sharing with civilians is on the cards.

In return for promising future democratic elections, and the release of detainees, the new military government would gain essential foreign aid. Already names are being bandied about for the presidency and the favorite seems to be twice past-president, Victor Paz Estenssoro. Despite his poor election showing, he remains at least an acceptable figure to the population. An old and sick man, he is known to covet one last chance in office, and, as his involvement with the ill-fated Bush adventure showed, he has no scruples about cooperating with the military.

Another favorite is ex-general, ex-President Bander, who is making every effort to distance himself from Meza. Bander is something of a national legend, surviving an unprecedented seven years in the presidency from 1972 to 1979. — (OFNS)

Pinochet accused of rigging ballot

By Mary Helen Spooner

SANTIAGO —

A detailed report on alleged irregularities in Chile's constitutional referendum in September has been presented by the country's Christian Democratic-led opposition, but Gen. Augusto Pinochet's military regime has rejected the allegations. The report, which was signed by 45 people, found that:

The two safeguards used to prevent the casting of more than one ballot, a tiny stamp attached to identity cards and "indelible" ink in which voters dipped their fingers, were virtually useless. The stamp could be peeled off and the ink could be washed off.

The counting of ballots at each voting site was to have taken place in the presence of a notary or the public. This requirement was not heeded at most polling stations, and the voting was supervised by persons "of full political confidence, whose adhesion to the regime was above doubt."

Unmarked ballots or those marked both "yes" and "no" were often counted as votes in favor of the proposed constitution. People attempting to observe the count were often obliged to leave "through use of public force." The document noted that "in many areas, especially in the provinces, in small communities and in rural areas, the count took place in private, with officials preventing all public access."

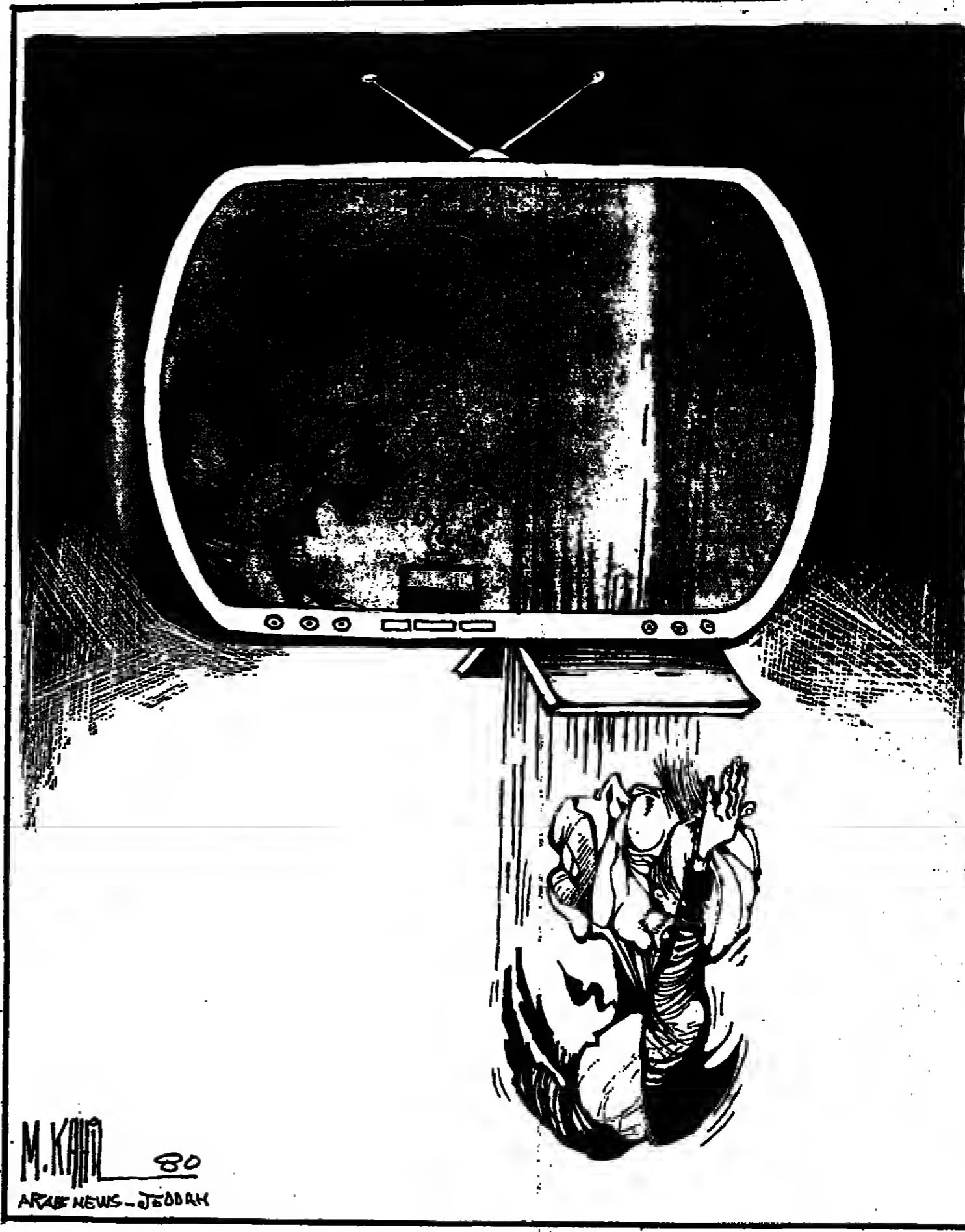
The report also claims that public funds were spent on advertising in favor of the proposed constitution, and lists expenditure totaling more than \$10 million for "propaganda."

The report asked Chilean election officials to declare the referendum void in view of these irregularities. The next day, the government published a statement saying the report "lacked all legal and moral foundation." The statement warned that if the opposition failed to prove its charges, it would "always carry the stigma of having seriously offended thousands of honest compatriots and of having joined, once again, the international conspiracy against Chile."

The new constitution is scheduled to come into force in March, coinciding with the start of an eight-year "transition period" during which Pinochet will remain in office. Although he has stated he will not seek to prolong his rule after that, the way is certainly open for him to do so.

Pinochet's followers have announced the formation of a civic-military movement to support the regime's work during the transition period. There are some signs that this civic-military movement may form the basis for a future right-wing political party. The movement's ideological thrust is distinctly anti-Communist, and its members have stated the need for an intellectual rationale to combat the vestiges of leftist political ideas left over from the three-year Socialist government of President Salvador Allende.

Chile's opposition has warned of the danger of continued prohibition of moderate dissent. The president of Chile's dissolved Christian Democratic Party, Andres Zaldivar, said recently that the country might see an increase in political violence if this prohibition persists. (OFNS)



How Americans elect their president

Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON —

In Tuesday's presidential election, Jimmy Carter could win more popular votes than Ronald Reagan and yet lose the presidency. This is because of America's antiquated — and some say obsolete — election system, which is built around a shadowy, ill-understood institution called the Electoral College.

Americans have become used to the idea that the winner of the popular vote in the general election becomes their next president. This is what usually happens, but not always. For in reality, the American president is elected not by popular ballot but by the votes of the Electoral College.

Because of this system, three times in American history the winner of the popular vote has failed to gain the presidency — in 1824, 1876 and 1888. And there have been a number of other elections in which this almost happened.

The most recent near-miss was only four years ago, when Jimmy Carter defeated President Gerald Ford. In that election, if Ford had received 5,900 more votes in the state of Ohio and 3,600 more votes in Hawaii, he would have captured those states' electoral votes and won the election, even though Carter could have won the popular vote count.

The Electoral College, a compromise creation written into the U.S. Constitution in 1787, indeed appears strange to those viewing it from abroad — and to many Americans as well.

The college has no headquarters, and its members never meet together in a general assembly. The members, known as electors, change every four years. Very few Americans know the names of the electors, even though they vote for them in the general election.

The Electoral College is composed of state delegations — one for each of the fifty states and the District of Columbia. When the college was origi-

nally created by America's founding fathers, it was seen as a compromise between the advocates of states' rights and the supporters of popular rights.

According to the constitution, each of the Electoral College's state delegations must meet in its respective state once every four years to select its choice for president. The delegations then must send their votes to Washington, where the president of the U.S. Senate (who is the vice president of the United States) opens and counts them before a joint session of Congress on Jan. 6.

When the college was first set up in the 18th century, there was no popular vote for president. Each state legislature chose its delegation of electors — one delegate for each U.S. senator and representative the state possessed — who then met to decide on their choice for president. The electors then voted for the president.

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The most likely flash point of new world war

By Leonard Raynor

HONG KONG —

South-East Asia is still, arguably, the most likely flash point of a third world war, and a timely reminder of that comes in the announcement of joint military exercises in the region by ANZUK, the defense grouping of Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom, and its partners, Malaysia and Singapore.

Russia, bogged down in Afghanistan, threatened by civil unrest in Poland and compelled to tie up a million troops in Soviet Asia, to counter the Chinese threat, lacks the surplus conventional military capacity to embark on more adventures.

For the Americans, the abject lesson of Vietnam is still looms large — Third World battlegrounds are to be avoided. The precedents are clear enough — Washington and Moscow will go to most lengths to avoid a final showdown. But out so the People's Republic of China. Newly appointed Premier Zhao Ziyang's government re-echoes the conviction of its predecessors that war with the Soviet Union is inevitable. China's attack last year on Russia's ally, Vietnam, could have precipitated that war and Moscow's inaction then has still not been explained.

Traditionally, when the going gets tough, Filipinos governments used the red herring of the country's historic claim to the East Malaysian state of Sabah as a rallying call to the disaffected. Those who know say the claim could be resurrected at any time. In Sabah itself, state elections are due in April 1981 with the prospect of USNO, the United Sabah National Organization, returning to power.

During its year in office up to 1976, weapons supplied by Libya were smuggled through Sabah to Filipino Muslim dissidents, while USNO itself countenanced a form of ethnic extremism which

aggravated the Philippine problem and caused disension in Sabah itself.

A return to USNO rule, coupled with any further deterioration in the Philippines, could bring a return to the regional differences of the mid-1960s, when the Philippines supported Indonesia in its confrontation with Malaysia.

The political future of Sabah could be the key to ASEAN's continued ability to be a breakaway against the Soviet flood in South-East Asia. Without ASEAN, the solution will be the more fundamental approach of the Chinese. To date, ASEAN's obvious success has been in international affairs with common policies consistently adopted by the five at the United Nations — usually anti-Soviet.

The Indonesians take the view that military pacts are a provocation to a potential enemy and rarely guarantees anything. Consequently ASEAN has rejected a joint defense posture, although the American Air Force and naval presence at Clarke Field and Subic Bay in the Philippines and the continued ANZUK interest in Malaysia and Singapore provide some small measure of protection.

But ASEAN's survival as an effective force depends on the solidarity of the five and their own selfish interest in mutual collaboration. The Philippine crisis, coupled with the coming elections in Sabah, will put this solidarity to the test. (OFNS)

LEBANESE CABINET

The new Lebanese cabinet, formed after only forty-eight hours of consultations, could be rightly called pan-Lebanese. The success in its formation, three months after the resignation of the caretaker administration of Dr. Al Hoss, and two months after the failure of Mr. Takiedien al Solh to find a replacement, came to prove that efforts to augment the authority of the Lebanese state have never ceased, and that, hopefully, they will not prove vain.

The leader of the new cabinet is Mr. Shafiq al Wazzan — the noted Beirut lawyer, ex-member of parliament and present leader of the Islamic Council — who heads a team drawn from the ranks of the country's politicians, ex and serving members of the civil service, as well as members of the business community. Although the cabinet's constitution reflects as nearly as possible the various interests and sectors of Lebanese society, none of the members had been directly connected with the violence that bedeviled the country's life — yet the balanced representativeness of the mix appeared to satisfy the authority of the Lebanese state have never ceased, and that, hopefully, they will not prove vain.

The vast majority of the people of Lebanon, and behind them the Arab world, are holding to the earnest hope that the new government will succeed in extending the legal authority of the Lebanese state to every corner of the land, so that the country, after all those years of death and destruction, can once more

A history of oil and people

By Leo Jamoud

The recently published *Aramco and Its World* is not only a book about Aramco, and by Aramco. It is also one of the most — if not the most — beautiful, clear and informative books on Saudi Arabia, the Arab world and the exploitation of oil I have seen.

The elegant black cover, which displays the interior of a tenth century bowl from Samarkand, is a piece of art in itself. Inside, the book is basically arranged into four large divisions: Before Islam, Islam and Islamic History, Saudi Arabia: the Heartland, and Oil and Aramco.

More space therefore has been dedicated to "in world" than to Aramco itself. We know where we are. We know where we go. Maps not only speak, they stand out, they jump at you. As if the relief given to them was not eloquent enough, big splashes of colours define explicitly the developing areas as pages are being turned and centuries roll along.

The text is also much more readable than is often the case in such books and very instructive. Amongst the many things I always wanted to know about and was not afraid to ask, but never received answers for:

— people: what makes the essential unity of the population of the Arabic peninsula in spite of its diversity;

— Arabic numerals: Theirs and ours. Western and Eastern, modern and ancient.

How is that, though we do not use the same figures, you still call ours Arabic; — calendars and clocks: how the Islamic calendar was established in the 7th century and what question to use for converting Gregorian years into Hijra years — and vice-versa;

— whose traditional work is it to make coffee in Saudi Arabia?... Men,

— the historiography: how it is that no study of the past of the Middle East had been undertaken until Napoleon invaded Egypt with his army and two hundred scientists and scholars;

need for industrial oils and lubricants to work out the refining process of the crude — as it was not yet called. Eventually a first five-foot well was dug in Canada which produced enough oil to justify a small refinery that made lamp oil. Two years later the American E. Drake found that he could drill for oil the way others drilled for water.

There is no real beginning to the story of Aramco ... the discovery of oil in Bahrain in 1932 ... a first agreement signed in Jiddah in 1933 giving the Standard Oil company exclusive rights to explore, prospect, drill ... the arrival a few months later of two American geologists ... the frustration of five years of unsuccessful search ... the first encounter of a substantial quantity of oil in 1938 ... then years of frantic exploration and development.

"In the spring of 1939, King Abd-al-Aziz and his retinue moved east from Riyadh in a caravan of two thousand people in five hundred cars, and on April 26 they set up a city of white tents near Dhahran. After two days of banquets and formalities, the King inspected the installations and, on May 1, 1939 opened the valve that let the first barrel of oil flow into the first tanker at Ras Tanura". The King made a second and last visit to Aramco installations in February 1947. "This time he and his entourage travelled in a fleet of the Kingdom's own aircraft."

There is all this, and much more to read in this beautifully illustrated book, either by unexpected pictures such as fields of daisy-like flowers in the desert, or by the expected yet always seen with a shock: examples of the apex of modern architecture: King Faisal Specialist Hospital in Riyadh, or the terminal buildings of the new Jiddah airport.

This book has been the work of many hands and brains, Saudis, Americans and people from many other origins, too numerous to all mentioned. The author of the charts and maps is Don Thompson of Aramco's production staff who also gets the credit for the design of the book.

It is a work of art a resident of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, or any person otherwise interested in the affairs of this part of the world, will wish to have, not only as a coffee-table ornament but as a detailed and remarkably presented source of information.

(ARAMCO AND ITS WORLD — Arabia and The Middle East — Edited by Ismail I. Nawab, Peter C. Speers, Paul F. Hoye — Aramco Dhahran Saudi Arabia — 1980)

— the origin of the camel. Guess: American Single-humped or double-humped, he is of the same family as the llama, the vicuna and alpaca of South America;

— *kufiyah* and *ghutrah*: while the *ghutrah* worn by men is often called *kufiyah* in other Arab countries, in Saudi Arabia *kufiyah* is the name for the small, hrimless white cap worn normally or beneath the *ghutrah*;

And there is of course the story of oil, the fascinating tale of how man had always known the existence of it, had often used it in various ways, yet never realized the real value of it until the 19th century. A lively story illustrated by ancient drawings, vintage photographs of the adolescence of the oil industry, and finally photographs of the most recent Aramco installations.

Undoubtedly, prehistoric men had seen and smelled that strange blackish substance that seeped out of the earth. Noah, we read, had used petroleum to caulk the seams of his ark 4,000 years B.C. Sumerians used asphalt to cement knife blades to handles. Marco Polo reported seeing "fountains of oil", and "eternal fires" had been known to burn continuously in Iraq at least since Nebuchadnezzar's time. In the 9th century the Arab scientist Al-Razi produced a handbook in which he gave a description of how to distill *neft* (an old Persian word from which comes the word "naphta"). In North America Indians used it as war paint.

Ponds and fountains of oil were discovered in various parts of the old and new world throughout the centuries, but it took the real

TANKER: Oil has brought rapid change to Arabia.

REDOUINS: Their tents are woven in wool by the tribe's women.

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EEC states to cut steel output by 20%

BRUSSELS, Nov. 1 (R) — The European Economic Community has agreed on unprecedented production cuts by its steel industry to try to rescue companies from a crippling price war.

A decision by EEC industry ministers, reached at a meeting Thursday night after weeks of opposition by West Germany, imposed cuts of between 13 and 20 per cent on output of semi-finished products in the last three months of this year. Further cuts will be decided later for the first half of 1981.

The agreement follows a worsening price war between producers, who have been competing for markets shrunk by the worldwide slump in economic growth. The EEC steel industry had been working at only 60 per cent of capacity despite shedding more than 140,000 jobs in the past five years, according to industry experts.

The output cuts are intended to give steelmakers a breathing space while the EEC countries try to agree on rationalizing the industry and reducing over-capacity.

Agreement was only reached Friday night after concessions to West Germany and a telephone conversation between the prime ministers of West Germany and Britain, Hel-

mut Schmidt and Mrs. Margaret Thatcher. West Germany argued that the compulsory cuts, which will be overseen by the EEC Executive Commission, unfairly penalized its already efficient producers. Other EEC members were continuing to subsidize inefficient plant, it said.

But West Germany accepted the plan, after it was agreed to exclude small producers making less than 2,000 tons a month as well as some special steels from the scheme.

The quotas would not affect about 25 per cent of West German output, the country's Economics Minister, Otto Lambsdorff, said Friday in Bonn. "We have no reason to rejoice over the agreement. But we believe we got all we could out of the negotiations," he said.

Some countries, particularly Britain, had been anxious that concessions should not allow too many loopholes which would mean an ineffective agreement. Britain said the final scheme was a satisfactory compromise.

Total EEC crude steel production is expected to decline to 130 million tons this year from 140 million tons in 1979. Industry sources estimate the exceptions to quotas would cover about 20 per cent of total output.

Yugoslavia lifts price controls on gold, consumer commodities

BELGRADE, Nov. 1 (AP) — The government has lifted price controls from a wide range of commodities, saying it would let market supply and demand determine the costs. Proposals for tax cuts and a number of increases in welfare benefits were also announced.

The government, saying that prices of regulated products changed so frequently that "their control became even more difficult," rescinded price controls for gold and silver as well as for consumer goods ranging from autos worth several thousand dollars to liter bottles of drinks worth about \$2 each.

In a move to offset inflation, already running at about 30 per cent, authorities tightened regulations for credit buying. The market prices will take effect in 30 days, it was announced Friday. The steps widened the gap between Yugoslavia, an independent-

mined Communist country, and the centralized system of the Soviet Union.

Market forces, rather than government controls, had regulated an estimated 20 per cent of the nation's overall industrial output.

The new measures increase that percentage to about 31 per cent.

Among the items deregulated were household appliances, gold, silver, processing and precision machines, boats, radio and television sets, cosmetics, precooked meals in aluminum containers, fruit and vegetable products, mineral water, toys and international airline fares.

Sellers must still submit their new prices to the federal institute for prices "for evidence," but the government said "there exists a certain degree of competition ... and also the possibility for intervention by economic measures," if the new methods do not help the economic situation.

Saudi Arabian Government Tenders

Authority	Description	No. of Tenders	Price SR	Closing Date
Department of Education, Hail	Supply of tape recorders	15/400/	Free	Nov. 3
" " "	Construction of a school building in Al-Howait Village	16/400/401	150	Nov. 4
" " "	Completion of leftover work at Al-Marash school	17/400/401	150	Nov. 5
Ministry of Defense and Aviation	Transportation of fuel of Northern Province	27/400/401	100	Nov. 3
" " "	Supply of military uniforms	28/400/401	500	Nov. 4
Department of Education, Najran	Construction of a concrete roof school building (Model B)	—	500	Nov. 16
" " "	Operation and maintenance of power stations at Arwa and Hafira Nassah clinics	—	Free	No. 2



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Italy raises gasoline, alcohol taxes

ROME, Nov. 1 (R) — The new Italian government of Prime Minister Arnaldo Forlani has taken its first concrete steps against inflation with a decision to raise taxes on gasoline and alcohol.

Gasoline prices will rise by 75 lire a liter (about 35 cents a gallon) from Friday midnight, a government statement said. The increase takes the price of premium grade gasoline to 775 lire a liter (about \$3.75 a gallon).

Decrees raising the tax on distilled spirits and refined oil products were approved during a cabinet meeting and immediately taken by Forlani to the presidential palace to be signed by President Sandro Pertini.

They replaced similar measures taken by the previous government of Francesco Cossiga rejected by parliament last month. Their rejection forced Cossiga's resignation and the replacement of his three-party coalition by Forlani's four-party government of Christian Democrats, Socialists, Social Democrats and Republicans.

The latest tax measures will go into force immediately for two months, during which the government must win parliamentary approval for them or face the same fate as Cossiga.

Inflation in Italy is running at more than 21 per cent a year despite Cossiga's ill-fated attempt to cut consumer spending by between three and four trillion lire (between \$3.25 and \$4.5 billion) this year.

The center President, Frederick Pittera said "The Grand National Fair will be organized as a national festival of retail sellers and

Weekly Wall Street

Rising interest rates blamed for trend to bear market

NEW YORK, Nov. 1 (AP) — As the U.S. presidential election day approaches, the bull market that has been running for most of 1980 has lost a lot of its force. Rising interest rates have drawn some of the blame. In the past week, the bank prime lending rate climbed from 14 to 14 1/2 per cent.

The market has also had to absorb the shock of proposals by the Canadian government to increase its share of the oil-producing industry in that country — a development that sent navy oil and gas issues into that country — a development that sent many oil and gas issues into a deep decline on Wednesday and Thursday.

But it's also generally agreed that the market has suffered from a case of last-minute uncertainty about the outcome of Tuesday's national elections.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials fell 19.11 in the past week to 924.49, 50 points below the 3 1/2-year high it reached in September. The New York Stock Exchange composite index dropped 1.37 to 73.53, at the American Stock Exchange, where many Canadian oil and gas issues are listed, the market value index tumbled 19.45 to 335.99.

Big Board volume averaged 38.22 million shares a day, against 45.09 million the week before.

Brokerage-House Research Departments have been busy in recent days turning out forecasts of the likely impact of an election victory for President Carter or Ronald Reagan.

On the simplest level, the market's recent weakness has been ascribed to doubts about the winning chances of Reagan, the favorite

buyers. We will be taking the best out of the past exposition spring fairs which are now in the future relegated to the status of strictly trade forums of international character and applying the drama, color and excitement of these past shows to the national fair."

Pittera explained that the objectives of the Expo Center were being tailored to meet the changing Gulf market conditions brought about by the increasing incidence and presence of exporting nations in the Middle East. "For this reason," he said, "the Grand National Fair will concentrate on bringing retail buyers together with retail sellers whereas all other center exhibitions will link worldwide manufacturers with Gulf and Middle East buyers."

"Both types of events," he added, "will provide entertainment on commensurate levels to ensure that the center's philosophy of conducting 'business with pleasure' is maintained."

"The Grand National Fair" will be the most economical sales tool ever afforded national merchants with exhibit space, including shell scheme stands offered at the unprecedented price of 25 dirhams per square foot together with full services," Pittera said. "We may not be the Freddie Laker of the exhibition world, but we are getting close," he said.

LONDON, (R) — Britain is to send 70,000-ton cargo of North Sea oil worth about seven million sterling (\$16 million) to Greece early next month to encourage Greece to accept a huge energy trade package, the Trade Department said in London.

BRIEFS

those countries and industrialized nations."

ADDIS ABABA, (AFP) — The World Bank and the Organization of African Unity have reached an understanding for the bank to monitor and assist in implementation of the OAU's Lagos plan for African development, the OAU announced here. The Lagos plan, drawn up at a special OAU economic summit in Nigeria in April, is a blueprint for African development over the next two decades.

WASHINGTON, (AP) — Prices that U.S. farmers received for their products edged up 0.4 per cent in October, remaining at record levels and increasing by 11 per cent over a year ago, the U.S. Agriculture Department reported. The rate of increase was not as steep as last month; farm prices jumped 1.9 per cent in September.

VIENNA, (AP) — OPEC's News Agency (OPECNA) will start operating next Monday, Nov. 3, from its headquarters here with a daily 1,500-word news service to some 350 recipients in 70 countries around the world. A communiqué issued by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries said the news service was "aimed at providing a strong impulse to efforts of Third World countries to rectify the imbalance in the flow of information to developing countries and between



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Republic of China trade to hit \$40b

TAIPEI, Nov. 1 (CNA) — The Republic of China's two-way trade may reach \$40 billion this year with last year's \$39.2 billion, Economic Minister Chang Kwang-shien said recently.

Speaking at the Sino-American Commerce and Industry Business Forum on Oct. 17, Minister Chang estimated that the trade volume between the Republic of China and the United States will reach \$1 billion this year, compared with last year's \$9.029 billion. The United States will remain the biggest trade partner of the Republic of China in the coming year while the Republic of China will be the seventh biggest trade partner of the United States, Chang said.

To further narrow the trade gap between the two countries, Chang said the nation will dispatch the sixth "Buy American" mission to the United States in the spring of next year. The Chinese government took after the initiative to send "Buy American" missions from 1978 to correct the imbalance situation.

Meanwhile, the ROC has become one of the largest suppliers on the world market of electronic products and related spare parts and accessories, an official of the Taiwan Electrical Suppliers Association revealed recently quoting a survey conducted by the U.S. Commerce Department.

Encouraged by exports of finished electronic products, the related spare parts and accessories industry in the Republic of China has been growing rapidly in recent years, the official said.

Foreign Exchange Rates

	SAMA	Cash	Transfer
Bahrain Dinar	—	8.85	8.85
Belgian Franc (1,000)	109.00	—	—
Canadian Dollar	2.82	—	—
Deutsche Mark (100)	175.00	174.50	174.25
Dutch Guilder (100)	162.00	—	161.55
Egyptian Pound	—	4.40	4.45
Emirates Dirham (100)	—	90.20	90.30
French Franc (100)	76.00	77.00	75.80
Greek Drachma (1,000)	—	75.00	—
India Rupee (100)	—	—	43.20
Iranian Rial (100)	—	—	—
Iraqi Dinar	—	9.50	—
Italian Lira (10,000)	37.00	37.00	37.00
Japanese Yen (1,000)	15.80	—	15.80
Jordanian Dinar	—	11.20	11.16
Kuwaiti Dinar	—	12.35	12.39
Lebanese Lira (100)	—	96.00	95.20
Moroccan Dirham (100)	—	88.50	85.50
Pakistani Rupee (100)	—	—	33.70
Philippines Peso (100)	—	—	44.50
Pound Sterling	8.11	8.15	8.11
Qatari Rial (100)	—	91.50	91.50
Singapore Dollar	—	—	1.58
Spanish Peso (1,000)	—	44.50	45.75
Swiss Franc (100)	194.00	194.00	193.70
Turkish Lira (1,000)	—	77.00	75.50
U.S. Dollar	3.32	3.33	3.32
Yemeni Rial (100)			

PLO worried about effects of Iraqi-Iranian fighting

DAMASCUS, Nov. 1 (WP) — Leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organization are visibly worried about the negative impact the Iraqi-Iranian war is having on their own struggle just at a time when they saw it making giant strides in gaining international recognition, particularly in Western Europe.

The war, they feel, has eclipsed their own cause as the central issue in Middle East politics and is serving to weaken Arab and newly won Iranian support for the Palestinians as the Gulf conflict forces into the open new regional divisions and rivalries among their allies.

Worse yet, they see their two main enemies, Israel and the United States, taking full advantage of the situation to improve their own respective military positions in the region to the detriment of the Arab and Palestinian cause, with the Israelis very possibly using the war as a cover to launch a new and far wider offensive against their strongholds in southern Lebanon.

"We don't like this war," said Khaled Fahoun, the highly articulate chairman of the Palestinian National Council, the PLO legislative body. "We think it is very unfortunate, and we are doing our best to get a ceasefire as soon as possible. It has diverted attention (from our struggle) and if it continues, I am sure it will weaken us. Unfortunately, I think it will continue," he said.

Expressing similar views, Abdul Mousien Abu Maizer, a PLO Executive Committee member and its official Paris-based spokesman, said with a note of nostalgia in a separate interview: "We had succeeded in proving our cause as the No. 1 cause in the area and in the political life of the Middle East." He recounted proudly the various recent Palestinian successes at the United Nations and noted that the diplomatic battle for recognition had clearly turned in

their favor in Western Europe now. "We try to draw the attention of the international community to our cause and such a war between Iran and Iraq does not serve our interests," he remarked.

That the Palestinians immediately recognized the potential threat of the war to their struggle was dramatically underlined by PLO leader Yasser Arafat's early attempt to mediate between the two warring countries.

The Palestinians are desperately trying to focus world attention on their own struggle, most particularly right now in Lebanon, where Christian-Arab rivalries threaten to explode into an open confrontation between PLO supporters and opponents, and the Israelis are taking advantage of the confusion to capture a Christian "buffer zone" in the south.

The two PLO officials here echoed the cries of alarm coming from Arafat in Beirut that Israel is preparing a "wide aggression" against the Palestinians in southern Lebanon in the shadow of the Iranian-Iraqi war. They said a buildup in Israeli heavy weaponry and troops was under way now inside the swath of border territory controlled by the maverick Lebanese Christian leader, Maj. Saad Haddad, who has declared the area "free Lebanon."

Palestinian intelligence, Abu Maizer said reading from reports he had received from Beirut, had sighted 120 Israeli armored vehicles, three batteries of long-range artillery and three battalions of Israeli commandos moving recently into Haddad's territory.

"In Lebanon, we have to expect anything from the Israelis," said Fahoun. "They will take advantage of the war and the U.S. elections to do something. It is a source of worry to us."

The Israelis last staged a major incursion into southern Lebanon in late August, using air power, artillery and an

estimated 500 to 600 commandos to storm Palestinian positions in and around Beaufort Castle near the Litani River. They failed, however, to dislodge them.

While the Palestinians see Israel using the Iraqi-Iranian war as a cover for their next offensive into southern Lebanon, they view Washington working just as calculatingly now to expand its military presence throughout this region.

"The United States is trying to benefit from this war for its interests in the area, which do not reflect those of the Arab or the American people," said Abu Maizer. "It is not dealing with the region with clean hands. ... It is not a wise policy and will affect the possibility for a just peace."

The only "bright" spot the Palestinians see on an otherwise gloomy war-ravaged Middle East political landscape is the recent Soviet-Syrian treaty of friendship and cooperation promising a greater Soviet presence to be good for us because it is a counterweight to balance the increased American presence which is against us, gives us nothing and supports Israel," said Fahoun.

Beneath this bravado, however, it does not seem the Palestinians really expect the expanded Soviet involvement to produce the "just peace" they are calling for or to eliminate the "false peace" born of the Camp David accords. Their hopes appear to be pinned rather on some kind of new initiative coming from Western Europe later this year, even though they have nothing doubtless beneath the surface that anything serious will really materialize.

"You cannot say up until now there is an initiative," said Fahoun. "There is talk, hints, ideas but no real initiative."

For this he blames the United States, which he charged was blocking Western Europe from launching a serious alternative to the Camp David peace accords in the Middle East. "I hope the American



Abdul Mousien Abu Maizer

Khaled Fahoun administration will allow the Europeans to do something," he said, half-wisely and half-doubtfully.

Meanwhile, the Palestinians seem determined to press forward with their own strategy of concentrating on diplomatic means to gain recognition for their demands for an independent state. Fahoun said this was still the "majority policy" of the PLO despite a lot of recent debate within the organization about its validity. "We always debate everything, but the majority is prevailing," he said.

As *Safir* newspaper bombed

Rightists, Lebanese army clash in Ain Rummaneh

BEIRUT, Nov. 1 (Agencies) — Fresh fighting broke out before dawn Friday between Christian militia occupying a residential Beirut neighborhood and the Lebanese army that less than 24 hours earlier had been invited into the district by the militia's commander.

A Lebanese army spokesman said army units and positions came under fire from Phalangist gunmen as reinforcements were moving into Ain Rummaneh. The spokesman said one soldier was killed and nine wounded in the fighting.

The fighting erupted one day after warriors of the rightist Phalangist Party won control of the Ain Rummaneh district from a rival Christian leader.

That victory came after four days of round-the-clock battles involving tanks, rockets, artillery, and mortars. Friday's fighting was limited in the morning to antiaircraft weapons, but by afternoon had escalated to machine guns and light artillery, once again forcing the low-income residents of the battle-weary neighborhood to huddle in basements and sandbag shelters.

Phalangist commander Bashir Gemayel Thursday claimed that his occupation of Ain Rummaneh was strictly a move to chase out a rival Christian militia that had victimized Ain Rummaneh's residents, and that the Lebanese army was welcome to return to the neighborhood to maintain calm.

Gunmen kill policeman in Istanbul

ANKARA, Nov. 1 (AP) — Four suspected terrorists shot and killed a policeman in an ambush attack in a downtown neighborhood of Istanbul early Friday, police sources reported.

Sources said Taci Turkum, a policeman in the police section that handles subversive activity in Istanbul, died instantly in a hail of gunfire in Kumkapi, a residential suburb overlooking the Marmara sea. They added the gunmen fled into side-streets and a man

Friday, as the army started moving units into Ain Rummaneh, Gemayel heard the incoming soldiers were from garrisons in Muslim areas and declared they were unacceptable, police sources said.

No matter what the cause of the renewed combat, Friday's hostilities represent a test of whether the slowly rebuilding Lebanese army can face a challenge from the Phalangists.

Gemayel is accused by critics of wanting to conquer his Christian rivals and emerge as an unchallenged ruler of an 800-square-mile Maronite Christian territory that includes east Beirut and the Mediterranean nation's mountainous heartland. He has said he wants to drive the Palestinians out of Lebanon.

Meanwhile, the leftist Lebanese daily *As Safir*, which has close ties with Libya, was the target of a bomb attack Saturday, according to a statement released by the newspaper.

The explosion, which occurred at 03:20 a.m. local time (0120GMT) caused an estimated two million Lebanese pounds (over \$600,000) damage to printing presses. A bomb expert said the charge, composed of oxygen, flammable chemical, was estimated to be equivalent to 20 kilograms of TNT.

The statement said a group of armed men broke into the newspaper's printing presses and kidnapped the night watchman identified as Ahmad Hakim. Another group placed the charge while a patrol kept watch outside the building located in west Beirut.

No rash statements, Ben Bella says

M'SILLA, Algeria, Nov. 1 (AFP) — Former Algerian President Ahmad Ben Bella, who was freed Thursday from 14 years of imprisonment and 18 months of house arrest, has returned home joyfully to his family and to a welcome from hordes of well-wishers. However, he was less expansive toward a visiting AFP reporter Friday.

"I don't want to make any rash statements

Syrians need no visas to Libya

DAMASCUS, Nov. 1 (R) — Syrians can now enter Libya without a visa by using their identity cards, official Libyan sources said Saturday. They said that the decision, taken by people's committees in Libya followed an agreement early in September between Pres-

that could bother the authorities," he explained. "I will doubtless give my impressions later, but only after having felt the pulse of the country in the field."

Ben Bella said he was notified of his impending freedom Wednesday evening by Muhammad Cherif Messaad, an official in the central committee of the ruling FLN party.

"I don't want to make any rash statements

that could bother the authorities," he explained. "I will doubtless give my impressions later, but only after having felt the pulse of the country in the field."

The Libyans have been able to enter Syria without a prior visa for several years, a privilege enjoyed by all Arab nationals.

BRIEFS

UNITED NATIONS, (AP) — The U.N. Decolonization Committee rejected a Moroccan-backed resolution Friday calling on all countries not to intervene in Morocco's war against nationalist guerrillas in Western Sahara. The vote came after Thursday night's overwhelming approval by the committee of another resolution stressing the right of the Western Sahara people to self-determination and calling on Morocco to end its five-year occupation of the former Spanish colony.

BETHLEHEM, Occupied West Bank (R)



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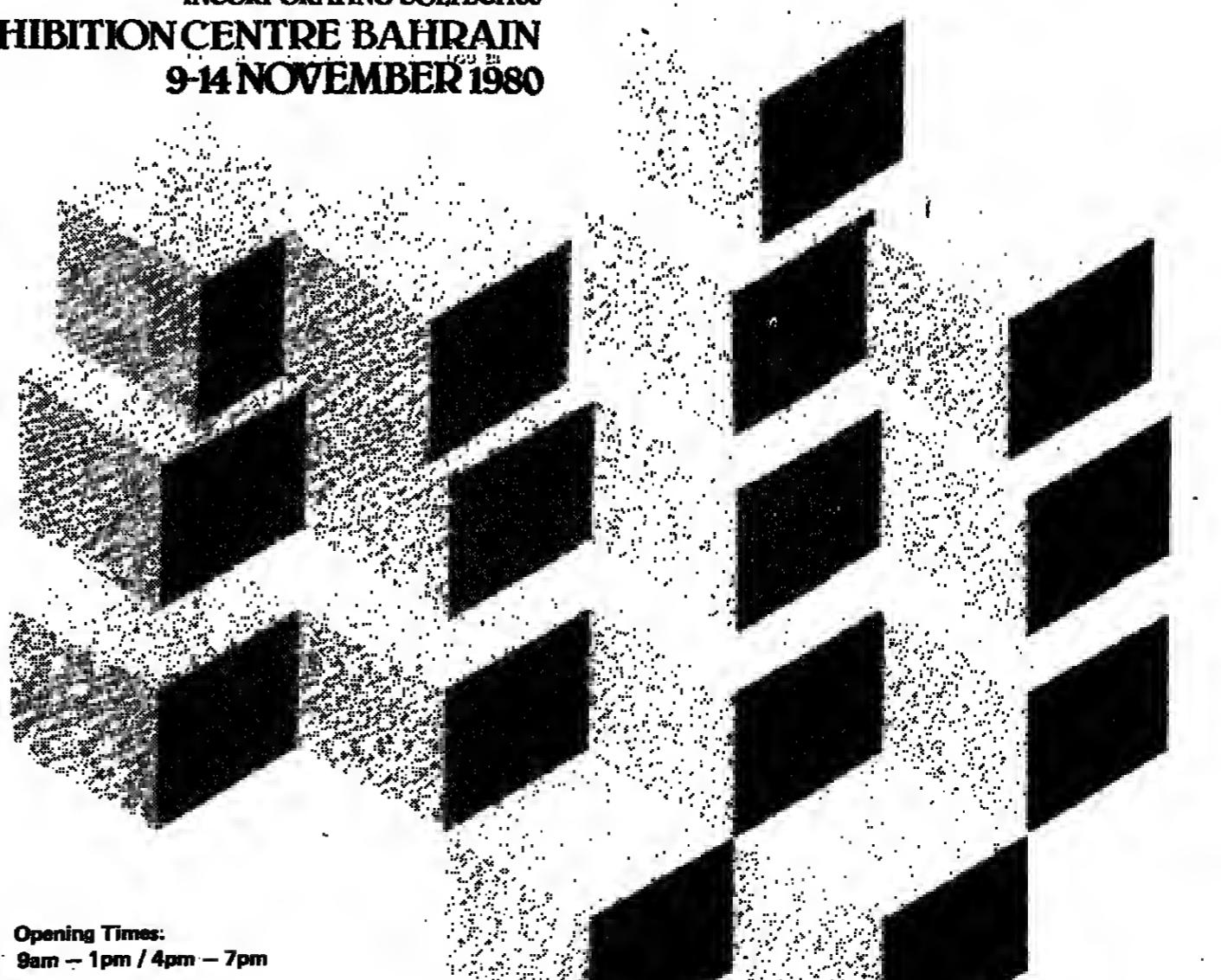
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University students stage Peking rally

PEKING, Nov. 1 (AFP) — About 20 Communist Chinese students have staged a demonstration in central Peking to voice unspecific grievances.

The demonstration, held Friday, was apparently the first here since the clampdown on activists of the democratic "Peking Spring" movement a year ago.

An official spokesman said about 20 students from Hebei province, which surrounds Peking, came "to present their requests." No arrests were made and the demonstrators left.

Industry chief heads Italy's gas tax probe

ROME, Nov. 1 (R) — The chief prosecutor of Rome has ordered an investigation into allegations that a government minister was the key figure in a \$2.2 billion gasoline tax evasion scandal, judicial officials said.

Senator Giorgio Pisano, of the right-wing Social Movement Party, named Industry Minister Antonio Bisaglia in Parliament on Tuesday as the head of a giant racket to defraud the state of tax revenues from gasoline hydrants.

The Christian Democratic minister denied the allegations and called them "a heap of lies and insinuations." Chief Prosecutor Achille Galucci asked his deputy to open an inquiry into the senator's claims, the officials said.

Earlier this week magistrates in 21 Italian cities issued arrest warrants for more than 700 suspects, following the arrest last week of the former head of the customs police, Gen. Raffaele Giudice.

First investigations revealed that with the help of forged documents heavily taxed petroleum products were passed off as products liable to a lower tax rate, thus robbing the state of billions of dollars.

At the same time the magistrates warned hundreds of others that they are under investigation in connection with the scandal while Finance Minister Francesco Reviglio said that as many as 2,000 people might end up in court.

English works on sale

LONDON, Nov. 1 (AFP) — Two old master paintings of the English school — one by Gainsborough, the other by Turner — go on auction here this month and may fetch more than \$800,000, Sotheby's auctioners announced.

The works are Gainsborough's "A Mounted Peasant Driving Cattle over the bridge," which Gainsborough is said to have traded for a violin, and Turner's "Wreckers on the Coast."

Sotheby's said the reserve price for the Gainsborough is in the region of \$400,000 and the Turner might fetch even more.

after talking "with the personnel concerned and public security."

However, a foreign eyewitness said the students left the scene aboard a bus ringed by policemen. When intercepted by police, the demonstrators were on Chang'an Avenue, which crosses the city from east to west, half-way between the Great Hall of the People and Zhongnanhai, the Communist Party headquarters.

Several Chinese universities have been in a state of relative effervescence following student demonstrations in Changsha, capital of the central province of Hunan, two weeks ago.

Some 4,000 students took to the streets in Changsha to protest "maneuvers" by local Communist Party officials which led to the withdrawal of one of their comrades from a county congress election. Li Heng, the student excluded from the electoral list, and other organizers of the Changsha demonstrations sent telegrams to the country's leading higher learning institutions, triggering expressions of support, notably from Peking's Beida University and Shanghai's Fudan University.

Twenty-two student protesters from Changsha arrived here a week ago to present their grievances to authorities.

Science winning lung cancer fight, researcher claims

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 1 (AP) — The steady progression of medical science — rather than headline-grabbing breakthroughs — is showing some success against lung cancer, a malignancy that has been considered virtually a death sentence, says an American researcher.

"The popular conception (that lung cancer is invariably a hopeless disease) is just wrong," said Dr. F. Carmack Holmes of UCLA Medical School. "It has become apparent that not all lung cancers are devastating."

When tumors are detected and treated early, he said, surgery can cure about 85 per cent of patients, "and even with some of the more advanced lung cancers ... a reasonable percentage of these patients can be cured."

While noting many extensive lung cancers are still beyond real help, Holmes outlined "some cautious optimism" at Scripps Memorial Hospital's fourth annual cancer symposium in La Jolla.

The American Cancer Society says only 8 per cent of American men and 12 per cent of women survive five years after a lung cancer diagnosis.

But Holmes said in a telephone interview some major hospitals are improving those odds with earlier and better diagnosis, multiple therapies and an improved understanding of the disease.

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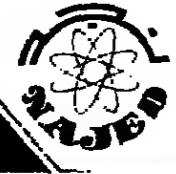
Aluminium Products Company Limited (ALUPCO) Dammam, hereby announces that the services of the Assistant General Manager, MR. BARRY NEWTON WHETTON, British national, who was working as a Financial Manager and whose photograph is exposed above, will be ended on 10-11-80. He will leave the country on an exit visa only.

Any one who may have any claim against the above mentioned person is requested to contact ALUPCO not later than 3rd day of November, 1980.

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Petitioning starts Monday Austria votes on N-debate

VIENNA, Nov. 1 (AP) — For the second time in two years, the politically explosive issue of nuclear power is calling Austrians to the polls.

Unlike the nationwide referendum of Nov. 5, 1978, in which a slim majority of 50.47 per cent voted against activation of Austria's first nuclear power station, this time people will decide only whether to require a debate in parliament.

The 1978 referendum involved Austria's first nuclear plant — the \$650 million facility at Zwentendorf, northeast of here. The plant, which remains idle, was to produce 12 per cent of the nation's electric power.

Starting Monday, two separate "Volksbegehren" — the constitutional instrument of popular petition or initiative — will be open for signature for one week. Some 5.2 million eligible Austrians may — but do not have to — sign either document.

One Volksbegehren calls for parliament to reopen debate on nuclear energy and repeat the 1978 constitutional law banning atomic power in Austria. A second initiative endorses the nuclear power ban and urges conversion of the idle Zwentendorf plant to gas-fired generation.

If either petition gets 200,000 or more signatures, parliament must place the issue on its agenda for plenary debate.

The pro-atom petition is expected to muster between 250,000 and 500,000 signatures.

Kuril ownership issue flares in Soviet press

MOSCOW, Nov. 1 (AFP) — Japan once more came under attack here over the Kuril Islands issue when the newspaper *Sovetskaya Rossiya* Friday denounced what it termed "the illegal and unfounded" pretensions of Tokyo to these islands that were ceded to the Soviet Union in 1945.

Noting that maps and text books published in Tokyo continue to describe the Kurils as Japanese territory, the paper accused the Japanese premier's office of being "the coordinator" of an anti-Soviet campaign over the issue.

Japanese Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ito recently reaffirmed that there was no relation of any "effective normalization" of relations between Tokyo and Moscow as long as the Soviet Union would not return the four Kuril islands.

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Worried Los Angeles 'copes' with gang crime

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 1 (OFNS) — Shocked by an epidemic of youth gang violence, Ronald Reagan's smog-bound home city this week anxiously sought a cure for a problem that has earned it the title of America's murder capital.

By the time its much-touted "bicentennial celebration year" is ended, police predict, Los Angeles will have suffered a record 2,000 homicides. The county coroner is demanding more staff and more space to handle his "autopsy backlog." Too many bodies are coming in too fast.

All this week criminologists and ex-gang chieftains, ghetto priests and police met in public hearings to seek new ways of "coping" and shake heads over "staggering" statistics that show teenage gangs to be the prime cause of violence on the streets.

More than 300 gangs with 30,000 members exist in the LA basin. Restricted for years to the Mexican barrios of the east side and the black ghetto of Watts, the gangs are growing younger, bolder and betterarmed. Internecine rivalry is giving place to war on the affluent society.

Of several hundred people killed in gang crimes this year, fewer than 40 per cent died in tribal wars. The majority were luckless passers-by like the 19-year-old French tourist slain by two 16-year-olds outside a fashionable restaurant. Or the 67-year-old businessman shot in his car at a red light. There was no robbery. Police call this one of many "gang initiation" killings.

"In the barrio, you're nothing if you're not in a gang," 18-year-old Quwate Estes — who joined one at 11 — told city officials at the hearings. "But if you've killed, you're really something. Like if you were a high school sports star in a classy district."

In "initiation" killings, victims may be shot down on the street from speeding cars. Speeding is an important element, since the target becomes more difficult. "But they're not above shooting at random into the crowd at a football game," says Lieutenant Robert Martin, head of an LA anti-gang squad.

A grievously embattled enclave is Venice West, a once-Bohemian, hippie-haunted beach community. It is being rapidly invaded by money, over-priced restaurants, "chic" boutiques bearing the franchised names of Hollywood luminaries.

A few blocks inland lies Oakwood, one of LA's roughest ghettos, where thousands live

in slums on welfare and black gangs feud with an influx of young Mexican illegal immigrants. Murders in Venice have doubled this year. Rape is up 35 per cent, robbery 46 per cent.

Nearby is the Watts ghetto, where little has changed since the great riots of 1965. Around 80 per cent of young blacks are unemployed. For the gangs, change means the replacement of knives and fists by hand-guns and armed guerrilla-style raids into rival territory.

"Once you had to be tough and kick ass to lead a gang," said an ex-leader of the "White Fence" gang. "Now you just need an itchy trigger finger."

The police grumble that budget cuts after the passage of Proposition 13, California's tax-slashing initiative, have reduced their numbers to 1970 levels. A thin blue line of 6,700 officers today serves a city of three million. Chicago, comparable in population, has 14,000 men and is far smaller in area.

With gang-related crime up 63 per cent in Los Angeles, vigilante groups and well-meaning community organizations are springing up everywhere. Last week LA's city fathers joined in with a \$1.2 million "community crisis" system, patterned after a fairly successful Philadelphia program. Street-wise citizens, ex-gang members and others work in civilian patrol teams, equipped with cars. A 24-hour communications center monitors reports of violence and neighborhood tension.

Why the upsurge in gang mayhem? University of California sociologists have had a field day, blaming recession, high 1980 unemployment, and the undoubtedly fact that LA has become a new Ellis Island, America's leading port of entry for aliens, and otherwise.

The influx ends up in the inner city, where an alienated youth subculture, lacking education, job and hope for the future, finds division, as well as profit, in crime.

Thai art on display

PARIS, Nov. 1 (AFP) — An exhibition of Thai sacred art, made up of 69 sculptures, is on show in Paris until next Feb. 1. All the pieces except one are from Thai museums. The exception is from a royal museum.

Most of the works are in bronze or other metals. There is one wood sculpture, the door of a 16th-century temple showing two spirits guarding the sacred entrance.

